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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 9, 2009**

The Board of Selectmen met in the Joseph F. Bilotta Meeting Room, Town Hall as scheduled with Thomas Alonzo, Thomas Mason, David Matthews and Kerry Speidel, CAFO present; Paula Bertram & Steven deBettencourt came into meeting late. Regular Meeting opened at 5:56 PM with a roll call vote to enter into Executive Session: Tom Mason; yes, Dave; yes and Tom Alonzo; yes. They would return to Regular Session. Regular Session reconvened at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Both Dave and Tom Alonzo congratulated the graduating class of 2009. Dave said they were a fantastic group of kids and wished them well in their future endeavors.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the High School Auditorium the School Regionalization Committee will discuss the draft agreement and the potential effect on the communities. All are encouraged to attend.

Band Concerts to begin on Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> and will go every Monday in July with a rain date of July 27<sup>th</sup>. The band concerts are held on the lower common.

This weekend is the final performances of the Guild Dancers who have been performing since 1981. Sad to see their departure. Performances are Friday at 8:00 PM and Saturday 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM. Tickets are available at different locations in town ( Elena's and Trudie's) ; \$12.00 for advance tickets and \$15.00 at the door.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**1. 7:15 PM – Gene Capoccia/Pearl Brook Housing Authority Update -** Gene Capoccia, Director of Pearl Brook Housing Authority, along with the Chairman, John Romano came before the Board to update them on the progress being made on the renovations at the Pearl Brook Housing Complex. He said that due to the buildings not having been originally built to code, the insurance settlement may not cover the costs (results of last year's fire) of restoring the damaged building and bringing it up to code. This is a 1.7 million dollar project that they expect to start this summer. Plans include new fire alarms, sprinkler systems, hot water system and new windows which will add to the ventilation in the units. They are also planning to convert from electric to natural gas which should be a savings. The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is providing \$889,000 toward the project, but the housing authority is short the \$200,000 needed before the project can go out to bid. Mr. Capoccia felt confident that it would be going out for bid soon and they will look into ways to get the funding needed. Tom asked that Mr. Capoccia keep the Selectmen up to date on the situation and to be put on the agenda in three weeks.

**CURRENT BUSINESS**

**1. CAFO Update –** following yesterday's vote in the House of Representatives, the Senate passed a supplemental budget containing \$6 million dollars in reimbursements for the December storm. The bill is now on the way to the Governors desk. Despite the climate in the Commonwealth they were able to fund half of the 25% in this fiscal year, with the intention of securing the second half in the next fiscal year.

Kerry said that she received a draft agreement from Joe Jordan, Director of Wastewater Management in Fitchburg. He would like to meet this Thursday at 2:30 PM to review the draft agreement and Kerry requested that a representative from the Sewer Commission and a Selectmen be at this meeting. Steve and Tom Mason will attend and Tom Alonzo will check his schedule.

**2. Minutes –** 3/24/09, 04/14/09 & 06/02/09 Regular Minutes & 06/02/09 Executive Session Minutes *signed*  
**Warrants-** Warrant # 25P09 (06/09/09) \$722,050.45 & W#66 09 (06/09/09) \$150,555.76 *signed*  
**Contracts-** *none*  
**Action File Issues -** *none*

**3. IMA (Inter-municipal Agreement) with Lunenburg Water District –** *tabled until next week*

**4. Ritter Memorial Signage –** the sign that the Board chose for the Ritter Memorial Building was not available for this meeting.

5. **BAN Authorization** – Kerry suggested rolling over the existing Bond Anticipation Note for a period of approximately six months, and recommended making use of the State House Note Program rather than the traditional market. The State House Note program is a program widely used by smaller communities with small amounts to issue. Total amount to be issued is \$1,534,960 with an interest rate of 1.34% with a maturity date of December 23, 2009. At that time a decision can be made for permanent financing; Board voted to approve for six months.  
**USRDA Financing for Meadow Woods** was *tabled until next week*. There was a question on the percentage that would come from the grant.
6. **Summer Schedule** – Steve suggested meeting every other week during the summer months as things slow down but other members felt that on the off meeting week they should have a workshop to catch up on outstanding issues. *tabled until next week*

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Committee Updates**
- **PACC** (Public Access Cable Committee) – Tom Mason said they are still working with Comcast to bring Channel 9 as a local channel, and are also looking for a part time director to organize that Channel 9 training, broadcasting meetings etc. Possibly training High School students interested in cameras and editing is still in the works.
  - **Charter Review Committee**–the revised Charter will be going before Municipal's Committee next Tuesday.
  - **Sewer Commission Meeting** cancelled for tomorrow night until next week.
  - **Advisory Committee** presented their finding to the School Committee on what would happen if we don't regionalize. This is available on the website.
2. **CAFO Evaluation** – *tabled until next week*
3. **Debris Clean-up** –Jack Rodriquez DPW Director updated the Board on the debris removal and stated that 12% of the job had been completed. He read a list of the streets that were done so far. Tom Mason made a motion that a letter be sent to the Department of Public Utilities in support of the Attorney General's fine to Unitil. The money received from Unitil goes to the state's general fund, but would like to work with our State Legislators to see that the money that they are being fined some portion of that money be returned to the towns that were the hardest hit.
4. **Meadow Woods** – DPW Director, Jack Rodriquez gave an update on the water and sewer project at Meadow Woods Trailer Park. He stated that although the project is complete to the point where residents have clean water as well as sewer service, the contractor has run into extra costs that go beyond the scope of his contract. There were errors in the surveying and the project was based on those numbers. He said the contractor "did a great job" and that efforts were being made to address the extra costs. The project was well under the 4.1 million budget; actual cost was closer to \$3.2 million. The Selectmen asked that Kerry check into why the 75% - 25% split between the loan amount was being applied to the original 4.1 million budget and not to the actual cost of the project. Dave recommended support with the stipulation that the money come back to the rate payers; Tom Mason, Paula and Tom Alonzo agreed with the stipulation; vote 4-1 – Steve voted against.
5. **Eagle Heights Agreement, JJUHL & Associates LLC** – *tabled until next week*

## **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS, REAPPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS**

1. **Vacancies** – Chairman announced the vacancies and stressed that there are two vacancies on the Sewer Commission and invited anyone interested to contact either the office of the Sewer Commissioners or Board of Selectmen.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. **Labor Relations**

Being no further business the Board voted unanimously to adjourn Regular Session at 9:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda H. Douglas, Administrative Assistant  
Board of Selectmen